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FACTS AND OBSERVATIONS RELATING TO AGRICULTURE & DOMESTIC ECONOMY.

BY THE EDITOR.

BEER MADE WITH HEMLOCK INSTEAD OF SPRUCE.

Judge Peters, of Pennsylvania, informs that "Beer quite as healthy, and much more agreeable than that brewed with the Canada or Halifax spruce, is made by the infusion of hemlock branches, with the materials of which our common spruce beer is composed. It has been substituted for spruce for many years in my family, and we think it preferable in flavor to the Canada or Halifax spruce."—*Memoirs of the Penn. Agricultural Society*, vol. i, p. 25.

BREAD, FOOD FOR HORSES.

Judge Peters asserts that "General Pulaski, (a Polish officer who served in the U. S. army during our revolutionary war) had a favorite charger, to whom he often gave *bread*, which the animal seemed to enjoy beyond any other food. In Holland it is a common practice to give horses rye *bread*, or baked provender.—The late Sheriff Penrose, who had a fine team of working horses, was in the habit of buying condemned *ship bread*, as the most nutritious, and profited by its advantages."—*ibid*, *p.* 236.

DUNG TOO MUCH ROTTED GOOD FOR NOTHING.

It was remarked by Judge Peters, that "during our revolutionary war, the late general P. Schuyler mentioned that he had once purchased a farm from the representatives of an old settler in the *then colony* of New York. A great inducement was, that some thousands of loads of *dung* had been accumulating for half an age; it having been considered as useless, when the land was fresh, and thrown into a vast ravine. At first the dung was operative, but the lower the mass was penetrated, the more worthless it became; till finally it would not compensate the labor and expense of hauling it out on the land."—*ibid*, *vol. ii*, *p.* 291.

STONES USEFUL IN SOME SOILS.

Stones cannot be picked off too close from sandy or loamy soils; but a considerable quantity of small stones are very useful in clay-loam for preventing its becoming too compact.—*Memoirs of N. Y. Board of Agriculture*, *vol. ii*, *p.* 20.

DIFFERENT MODES OF PLOUGHING DIFFERENT SOILS.

Loamy soils can never be ploughed too deep, nor mellowed too much; but sandy and clay soils should merely be turned over, in a flat furrow, and not afterwards ploughed so deep as to break the turf. For clay if mellowed too much will become mortar in wet weather, and bake in dry, and the sand will become too loose to support vegetation.—*ibid.*

The mode of ploughing *sandy soils*, according to the system adopted by the celebrated Duckett, an English farmer. "It was founded on three principles: 1. Ploughing very deep—a due degree of moisture was thus preserved in his light land, by means of which his crops were flourishing in seasons of drought, which destroyed those of his neighbors. 2. Ploughing seldom, but effectually, by a trench plough, or what he called a skim-coulter plough, with which he buried the weeds that grew on the surface; he has been known to put in seven crops with only four ploughings; and 3. Occasionally raising a crop of turnips the same season, after a crop of wheat or of pulse."—*Code of Agriculture*, *p.* 15.

It is remarked by an eminent author, that if one ploughing to the full depth be given, once in 12, 18 or 24 months, shallow tillage afterwards, is, in many cases, preferable to frequent deep working, and especially for wheat, which loves a firm texture."* "This doctrine is well entitled to the attention of the practical farmer."—*ibid*, *p.* 302.

Although some soils of a very loose texture may be ploughed or pulverized with harrows to an extreme, we believe this offence against good husbandry is very rarely committed. But that a *loose soil* may be and sometimes has been ploughed and harrowed to excess there is but little doubt. Wherever there is a want of coherence in the particles of the soil, *too frequent ploughing*, *harrowing*, &c. exposes the best part of it to be blown away by wind, or washed off by rain. When the soil has too little cohesion, or is easily made "mellow as an ash heap," as the phrase is, it should be disturbed no more than is necessary to keep it clear of weeds, and place the seed in the ground. What ploughing and harrowing is found to be indispensable, *in such a soil*, had perhaps better be performed in the spring than in autumn; for if the texture of the soil is naturally too loose, and it be ploughed in the fall, the frosts of the winter succeeding will greatly increase the evil.

Dr. John H. Steel, of the county of Saratoga, state of New York, in "Notes to the Geological Survey of Saratoga County," published in "*Memoirs of the Board of Agriculture of the State of New York*," page 155, observes that "The idea of rendering the earth *mellow* for the reception of the seed, which means, to have it finely pulverised and light, in common language *like an ash heap*, does not appear to be so important as many of our farmers seem to imagine. The great object of ploughing is to destroy and cover in the earth every species of vegetation, that the crop to be expected from the seeding may have nothing to choke and impede its growth, or deprive it of any share of the nutriment that there is in the soil, which would be useful to its own health and vigor; when this object is effected, the plough can be of no further use, except to cover the seed.

"The prevalent opinion, that turning in the *dew*, or exposing a *new surface* of the earth frequently to the rays of the sun, enriches the soil, has likewise no foundation in fact. The earth can imbibe nothing from the sun's rays but heat and light, which it possesses in sufficient quantity for all the purposes of vegetation, when it has not been moved at all. Who has not observed the most luxuriant spontaneous productions, where the soil had not been stirred for years? And it is a maxim among farmers, that "where weeds grow luxuriantly, every other vegetable will." Indeed, the frequent exposure of a new surface of the soil, during the summer months, must expose the volatile principles which it may contain to exhalation, and thereby endanger the loss of one essential article to its fertility, which in soils that contain much animal matter is very considerable. The turning in of the dew is equally absurd; it can contain no ingredient that is not found in rain water, which is nearly pure. The dew is simply the exhalations of the day, which are condensed during the cool of the evening; like rain, it forms an essential moisture for the support of vegetation, but can have no other effect."

The same writer observes (page 157, of the same work) "That frequent ploughing is useless, and frequently injurious, may be further inferred from the experience of many of the most observing farmers. The practice of merely turning over the sod and sowing on the furrows is becoming every year more popular, and an intelligent farmer has just given me the following account of a process which he tried the season past.

"Having a clean clover field, which he intended to plant with Indian corn, a part of it was ploughed and planted in the usual way, while the space between was left unmoved and green with clover, to be turned over to the hills during the process of hoeing; the corn was planted on the centre of the ridge. The success of this process was very observable through the season; the corn had a much more rapid and luxuriant growth, and at harvest yielded a considerable more abundant crop than the other parts of the field.

"The result is imputed by my informant, to the following causes: 1st. The ground beneath the hills of corn remaining unmoved and covered by the furrows, retained the moisture longer than that which had been turned over and exposed to the air and sun; hence the plants did not suffer by the drought, as did those in other parts of the field. And, 2dly. The turning of the sod, which was permitted to grow between the rows, up to the hills at hoeing time, furnished the roots, as they extended from the ridge, with a new supply of vegetable matter and moisture."

Other writers, however, among whom may be mentioned Mr. Curwen, a very celebrated English cultivator, assert that frequent ploughing and hoeing promotes moisture, and stirring the soil is the best of all remedies against drought. Mr. Curwen "holds that by constantly turning the vacancies between the rows or beds, in every direction, he can in dry weather procure for the plants something like a compensation for rain, in the evaporation of moisture from the earth. The first day's exhalation from ploughing is in the proportion of 950 lbs. of water per hour from an acre. The evaporation decreases on the second day a third part, and continues to diminish for three or four days according to the heat of the weather, when it entirely ceases; and is again renewed by fresh ploughing. A field of cabbages were this year set on very strong stiff clay, which previous to

* Young's Calendar, p. 510.

their being planted was in high tilth. The severe drought which succeeded the rains that fell soon after the setting, *baked the ground perfectly hard.* The plants made little or no progress; they were seen by a friend of mine, on Monday, the 26th of May, as I was commencing the breaking of the ground with the ploughs. They were worked for the whole week. On Saturday they were seen again by the same gentleman, and he could scarcely be persuaded they were the same plants. The week had been very dry, with a hot sun, and strong north east winds." Mr. Curwen attributes the rapid growth of his cabbages after the hoeing above mentioned to the absorption of the evaporation produced from the earth. According to him the earth beneath the surface, which was stirred by the plough, furnished the water of evaporation, which the soil thus stirred imbibed like a sponge or fleece of wool, and retained for the use of the plants. Dr. Steele, however, as well as some other writers, is of opinion that frequent ploughing, in a dry time, makes the soil drier than it would be if left at rest. The only way to reconcile these writers is to suppose that they are treating of totally different soils. A sandy soil, or a loam much inclined to sand, can scarcely be ploughed too seldom, provided you can keep weeds subdued, and the seed is properly covered. A clayey soil, or a loam much inclining to clay, can scarcely be ploughed too often, provided it is not too wet when you plough it. The sandy soil is like a riddle, and permits the water of evaporation as well as that of rain or dew to pass off too rapidly. By stirring it frequently you render its texture still looser, and increase its tendency to transmit instead of imbibing and retaining moisture which it receives from the earth or the atmosphere. A clayey soil, when well pulverized, is like a sponge, which imbibes moisture freely, and does not easily part with it. But if it once becomes dry and *baked* in the sun, it will require frequent and effectual ploughing to render it at all fit for the purposes of vegetation. A clayey soil should be ploughed in autumn, that the frost of winter may assist in pulverizing it. A sandy soil should be ploughed in the spring, as near the time of putting the seed into the ground as possible. A sandy soil should not be ploughed or hoed in dry hot weather; but a clayey soil cannot be stirred too frequently in such weather.

[BY THE EDITOR.]

NEW AND INTERESTING PAMPHLET.

A pamphlet has recently been published in this city, entitled, "*Remarks on the dangers and duties of Sepulture; or, security for the living, with respect and repose for the dead. By a Fellow of the Massachusetts Medical Society. Non defunctorum causa, sed vivorum inventa est sepultura.*—Seneca."* This production, in our opinion, does the highest honor as well to the head as the heart of its author, and ought not only to be found in the library of every man of science, but to be in possession of every house-keeper and head of a family. It is an 8 vo. pamphlet, containing more than 70 pages, and still has nothing superfluous, nothing which can fail to be read with interest by every man who claims affinity to his species, and considers health or even life itself as blessings worthy of his attention.

We have long been deeply impressed with the importance of the subject of this pamphlet, and have heretofore exerted what little influence our limited talents, leisure and means of information might possibly give us, in warning against the danger of converting our cities into cemeteries, and suffering them to become repositories of animal and vegetable putrescence, which not only offends the senses, but more frequently than is generally imagined, poisons enjoyment, ruins health and destroys life. But, till we read the pamphlet we now allude to, we had no adequate idea of the very malignant nature of the evils we deprecated, nor the power and universality of those sources of disease and pestilence which are so ably developed in this publication.

We do not intend this article for a *review* of the work to which we would be happy to call the attention of the public, but merely such a *notice* as would be likely to induce our readers to become the possessors of the information it contains, and which will be best obtained from the pamphlet itself. It would not be in our power to add any thing important to its contents, and should we attempt to give condensed views of the same subjects, we must of necessity omit what it is important should be generally known. We shall therefore give no farther specimens of the contents of the work, than what we judge may create an inducement to possess the *original* from which we have taken our *samples.*

Under the head "*Sepulture,*" the author treats "of the various modes of burial, which have prevailed in the world," including the origin of the custom of depositing the dead in cities, under or near churches, &c. The author then inquires, "*What proof is there that putrid flesh ever did any harm?*" Under this head he gives a number of statements, drawn from undoubted authorities, of the *very virulent nature* of the effluvia arising from animal putrefaction under certain circumstances. The instances he quotes are numerous, some of which will apply as well to residents in the country, as to inhabitants of cities. Among those of the latter description are the following:

"Lancisi writes that a putrid ox occasioned the death of an unfortunate traveller in Pisaro.

"Lucian speaks of a wide spreading disease, which ravaged Pompey's army, near Durazzo, which originated from the putrefaction of horses that had been killed and left uncovered.

"M. Bernard relates the following fact. A large fat man had been superficially buried in the ground. The offensive gases, which soon arose from the putrid body, obliged the neighboring inhabitants to remove it. Three grave diggers undertook to remove it; two of them becoming sick at heart, and vomiting, gave up the enterprise; the third—determined to finish it—persevered, fell sick, and died ten days after.

"In West Linton, some years ago, a school boy, getting into a new made grave, set about to open the projecting corner of a coffin, which, so soon as he had penetrated, there issued a strong nauseous smell, on which he exclaimed that he was suffocated; he revived on being taken out of the place, but fell immediately ill of a petechial fever, of which he died on the seventh day.

"M. Chambon reports, on the testimony of several historians, and on the faith of President De Thou, that the Peruvians, animated by a just vengeance against the Spaniards, steeped their arrows in the putrid blood of their slaughtered companions, to make the wounds they inflicted the more surely and promptly mortal.—M. Huzard says that a number of students in the French veterinary schools have suffered in like manner, in consequence of being wounded while dissecting horses and other animals.

"The decomposition of a body in the bowels of the earth can never be dangerous, provided it be buried at a sufficient depth, in a proper place, and the grave be not opened before its entire decomposition. The depth of a grave ought to be such that the external air cannot penetrate it; and that the exhalations which are developed should not be capable of forcing the earthy covering which detains them.

"Some years ago a man was killed by accident in Orange, New Hampshire. In about ten weeks after the burial the body was taken up to be deposited in a different place. Twenty persons were present at the disinterment of the corpse, which was in a putrid state. Thirteen of these persons fell sick of fever not long after their exposure to the putrid gases from the dead body, and several of them died. There was no other assignable cause for this fever than those noxious gases, the season and the place being otherwise quite healthy."

The author proceeds to cite a great number of other instances of the deleterious and often deadly effects which have originated from tombs and burial places improperly situated, and from imprudent exposures to the effluvia arising from vegetable and animal decompostion. He then quotes from the writings of the Rev. Dr. Dwight, a description of the cemetery at New Haven, which "may serve as a model to be improved by any amendments which genius or experience can suggest." Among other advantages arising from this cemetery, as enumerated by Dr. D. are the following:

"An exquisite taste for propriety is discovered in every thing belonging to it; exhibiting a regard for the dead, reverential but not ostentatious, and happily fitted to influence the views and feelings of succeeding generations. At the same time, it precludes the use of vaults, by taking away every inducement to build them.

"These melancholy, and I think I may say disgusting mansions, seem not to have been dictated by nature; and are certainly not approved by good sense. Their salubrity is questionable; and the impression left by them on the mind transcends the bounds of mourning and sorrow, and borders at least on loathing."

This pamphlet can admit of no answer—it is

* Burials were instituted, not for the sake of the dead, but for the benefit of the living.

impossible to gainsay or refute its positions because they are founded on *facts* which are neither few in number, doubtful as respects their evidence, nor equivocal as regards the lessons which they inculcate. To contend, after this, that deadly diseases are not communicated by effluvia arising from dead bodies, or other sources of animal putrefaction, must be deemed as absurd as to say that neither heat nor light emanates from the sun, or that darkness never succeeds to the close of the day.

We shall finish this notice with one other quotation from the conclusion of the work, which must recommend it more effectually to our readers than any observations of our own, though expressed in terms of eulogy commensurate with the merits and importance of the production.

"The author has no theory to propose but that of truth; no cause to plead but that of human life with its blessings and enjoyments. He wants no temple in order to find a grave. If he can but deserve the epitaph of SIMON PETER,* he will be content to be buried alone, or by the side of others,—like Aristides, in a field; like Homer, on the border of the sea; like Lysander, on a plain; or like any body else, who has been buried without parade, and without a tomb, at such a distance from his survivors as not to contaminate the air they might breathe, or the water they might use. He will be satisfied with any plan which shall give SECURITY TO THE LIVING, WITH RESPECT AND REPOSE FOR THE DEAD."

*Simon Pierre, vir, pius et probus,
Hic sub dio sepeliri voluit,
Ne mortuus cuiquam noceret,
Qui vivus omnibus profuerat.

An American Translation, or Paraphrase.

Here lies,
Under the pure and breezy skies,
The dust
Of *Simon Peter*, the devout, the just,
Doctor of Medicine.—
At his request
He sleeps in earth's sweet wholesome breast,
Rather than in a noisome cemetery,
Under a church where all the *great* they bury.
'Twould be, he said, a sin
Past all enduring—
A sin which to commit he was unwilling,—
Should he, who, while alive, got fame and bread,
The sick by curing,
Entirely change his hand, and go, when dead,
The well to killing.

From the American Farmer.

Boston, June 3, 1823.

CULTURE OF THE HOP.

MY DEAR SIR—I have to apologize to you, for my negligence, in delaying so long to reply to your inquiries respecting the culture of hops. The method which I have practised, has been to prepare the ground in the same manner as is common for raising Indian corn; after ploughing it well, to harrow it, and then furrow it cross ways, so as to leave the hills eight feet apart—then to manure in the hill with *quite* as much as you would do for corn. In the spring, cut your slips from the *root* of the hop vine, about nine inches long, and lay them upon the manure, three or four in a hill, and cover them with earth about as deep as is usual to cover corn—thus the planting, &c. is complete. You may for the *first* year, plant corn or potatoes between the hills, if you please; but I think it better economy not to do it, because you may plough with oxen between the rows, to lighten the ground preparatory for hoeing, which ought to be done three times during the summer. You get no produce the first year, and therefore it is unnecessary to pole them, unless perfectly convenient.

In the spring of the second year, you place, to each hill, two poles of about thirteen to fifteen feet above ground; and as the vine grows you train it to the poles. It is best to hoe them three times in the season, and (unless your land is very rich) it will be well to add some manure at the first hoeing. In gathering in the produce, you cut the vine to the ground, and pull up the poles, lay them across large wooden bins or boxes, made of rough boards, about ten feet long and five or six feet wide, into which the hops may be stripped off. This work may be performed by women and children. You take them from these boxes in bags, and carry them to the drying kiln, which is generally placed at the side of a hill or rising ground, for the convenience of taking the hops in upon the cloth or netting, which is stretched upon the sills above the furnace, which is at the bottom, where the fire is made, which ought to be with charcoal, because it gives the hops a much better flavor than by curing them with a fire made of wood. It is necessary that some careful person should attend, constantly stirring the hops with a rake during the process of curing, so that they may be well dried, without discoloring them. After you take them from the kiln, they must be spread (under cover) in an airy room, and constantly moved with a rake, once or twice a day, for ten or twelve days, when you may bag them for market.

This hasty, imperfect sketch, is from my own experience only. I presume you may obtain better information from those who have been longer in the habit of cultivating this vine.

I am, with great respect,
Your friend, and ob't servant,
ISRAEL THORNDIKE.

GORHAM PARSONS, ESQ.

From the Connecticut Journal.

TO FARMERS.

The season promises a very great crop of grass, with a more than usual proportion of white clover, which flowers abundantly. It is very desirable that the farmers in New England should use the opportunity which is near at hand, of securing a good supply of the seed of this very valuable grass, which for many perposes excels all the other grasses.

Pasture grounds well stocked with white clover yield more nutriment for cattle and sheep pr. acre than any other, and cows fed on white clover give milk of a superior quality. Besides affording the best pasturage in the world, the white clover may be cultivated to advantage for hay. White clover and herds'-grass sown on rich land, make a thick bottom, and the crop of hay will be more valuable than the crop from the same land sown with red clover and herds'-grass.

Besides the advantages above mentioned to be derived from the culture of white clover, it has another excellence of no small importance to the farmer. The sward or turf formed by white clover is always tender and easily ploughed or broken up, and all kinds of grain and corn flourish wonderfully well after this grass.

As white clover is what some would call natural to this country, that is, as it will after a few years get into land used for pasturing, the farmers have generally suffered it to grow, but have not saved the seed. This is a very great error. When land is laid down for pasturing and sowed with other grass, it generally happens that the grass-seed does not spring well, and the weeds spring up and occupy the ground a year or two before it is covered with white clover, whereas if the seed is sown, it will produce twice the quantity of seed. The best time for sowing white clover is in the fall with winter grain, but it will do well sown in the spring, and if by reason of drought it does not spring the first season, it will the next, as the seed is of a very imperishable nature.

The seed is collected by an instrument in form of a rake, with long sharp teeth set so near together as to let the flower stalks of the clover slip in between them, but not to allow the heads to pass. These will be broken off and collected on the upper side of the rake, and may be removed from time to time as the rake gets full. When the heads are collected they should be put into a dry place, and when thoroughly dried they may be threshed on a clean dry floor, and the chaff winnowed out.

The seed when clean is worth half a dollar a quart, or $16 a bushel. The instrument for collecting will cost but little, and children can do the work, which may be done to very great profit.

From the New York Mercantile Advertiser.

FRUIT AND VEGETABLES.

Messrs. Editors—I have been very much troubled the present dry season with small insects and flies on my gooseberry, currant, and rose bushes, and on my cabbages and cucumbers—but I have now the satisfaction to inform you that there is no such thing in my garden, and I am indebted to an intelligent neighbor for a cheap and easy mode of destroying them. He informs me that he had made use of a cheap and simple remedy, and which had never failed—and which was to sprinkle his bushes and vines with soap suds night and morning for a few times, and the fly and insect had never failed to disappear. I have made use of this recipe, and the effect has fully equalled my expectation—and I am of opinion if applied to fruit trees, the effect would be equally favorable. It belongs to the public to be made acquainted with this simple expedient to remove so great an evil—and I shall, therefore, be obliged to you if this small communication can have an insertion in your paper. G. C.

☞ For some remarks on the use of soap suds for manure, as well as an antidote against the ravages of insects, see New England Farmer, page 333.

CURE FOR THE ASTHMA.

Cut six penny worth of camphor into pieces the size of a small pill, and put them into a phial, for the convenience of the pocket, and whenever (night or day,) the spasmodic cough or nervous breathing commences, chew and swallow one or more of these pieces, as the case requires. The experiment may be worth a trial.—*London paper.*

From the Manufacturers' and Farmers' Journal.

WOOL.

I observed in a late number of the Journal,* an extract from a southern paper, purporting to be a communication from a farmer near Alexandria, requesting information upon the subject of the difference of the price of wool in Alexandria and Boston. The Alexandria farmer deems it a mystery that imported wool should command in Boston, seventy-five cents to one dollar twenty-five cents per pound, while he is selling the produce of his flocks at forty cents the pound, and proposes that the growers of wool should hold free communication with each other in order to maintain their prices. The difference is ascribed by the writer with much illiberality and injustice to a "mere eastern trick," to defraud the agriculturists of the south of the fair value of their fleeces. He considers "that since Congress has given encouragement to our manufactures, an equal encouragement should be extended to those who raise the wool, which is the raw material."

It is of much importance that prejudices and erroneous impressions should be dissipated, particularly when they affect the local feelings of different sections of our country. The growers of wool as well as the manufacturers of that article should have a proper understanding of their mutual interests, without harboring unkindly suspicions of each other. The Alexandria farmer observes with much justice that "wool is becoming too important an article not to be entitled to some attention."

Agreeably to the request contained in his communication, I shall endeavor to explain the cause of the difference in the price of foreign and domestic wool as sold in this country.

This difference is owing partly to the relative fineness of foreign wool, and partly to the superior manner in which it is put up for the market. The imported wool is usually assorted into three or more different grades, with appropriate marks to designate the bales containing each grade. This wool is thoroughly washed in a weak lye, to scour from it the yolk or grease peculiar to wool in its native state. By this process it loses from 25 to 60 per cent. of its weight in the rough state, and of course sells for an enhanced price after the operation. The farmers of the United States are satisfied with merely washing their sheep in the river previously to shearing them. This operation commonly scours off but an inconsiderable proportion of the grease, when performed with the utmost care. When the sheep are washed, as they usually are, in a careless and transient manner, and are afterwards left to run several days before they are sheared, their fleeces are often saturated with oil to the amount of one half of their weight. It is probably owing to this circumstance that the Alexandria farmer complains that he obtains less for his wool, of equal fineness, than is paid elsewhere for foreign wool well cleansed. The account would stand thus:

Cost of unwashed wool at 40 cents per lb.—10 lbs. is $4. Loss by washing, say 50 per cent.—5 lbs. Remaining of washed wool 5 lbs. cost $4, or 80 cents per lb.

As it regards the encouragement afforded to our woollen manufactures by Congress, the Alexandria farmer seems to labour under a mistake. No particular act has been passed by Congress with the express view of protecting the woollen manufactures, but only for the purpose of revenue. They are left to struggle against the overwhelming capitals of English manufacturers, and to sustain themselves as well as they can under the discouraging effect of excessive foreign importation. Few persons are aware of the vast sums annually remitted from this country, merely for the articles of cloth and cassimeres. By the last return of the Secretary of the Treasury for the year ending on the 30th of September, 1822, the imported cloths and cassimeres amounted in value to eight millions four hundred and ninety-one thousand dollars—being more than a tenth part of all the importations of the country. The numerous manufacturers in different parts of the U. States, furnish a great additional supply of cloths, which are now often preferred at the same prices to foreign cloths. It behoves many of those who are the most violent in their prejudice against the skill and workmanship of their fellow countrymen, to look well to their tailor for the origin of the coats they wear. These woollen manufactories have in many places ceased operating on account of the depressed state of the business. Any proposition therefore that may tend to raise the price of the raw material they manufacture, without at the same time advancing the price of their goods, must tend still more to discourage and to crush them. The value of imported wool during the year ending on the 30th of September last, amounted to three hundred and eighty-seven thousand dollars. There can be but little doubt that some protective measures will be adopted by the next session of Congress in favor of this description of manufacture, which is so necessary to the welfare of the nation, should foreign resources be suddenly cut off by wars or other causes, and which might afford a most extensive and profitable employment to the agricultural interest. As a branch of national industry, it has been emphatically termed "the wealth of England." It is particularly indispensable to the wants of a climate like ours, whose wintry blasts are so piercing, and whose summer heats are so often succeeded by sudden and unhealthy changes to chilling winds and storms. A.

* See N. E. Farmer, No. 49, p. 388.

From the American Farmer.

HONEY.

Newburyport, Mass. May 20, 1823.

J. S. Skinner, Esq.—"A lover of honey," in your paper, No. 9, vol. 5, says "there is a gentleman in the lower part of your native county, who knows much better how to take honey from bees than the German mentioned in your paper, No. 48, vol. 4, and with *less expense than Blake's patent hives*;" and goes on to state the process of taking off the top of the hive, &c. I confess I am not authorised to answer for your numerous patrons, but have the sanity to think a majority would prefer a hive like Mr. Blake's, that the top could be lifted like a chest cover, and the honey taken in a draw or box, that would be no disgrace to any table, if placed on it, to the method of knocking off the top of a hive, and breaking up a quantity of comb, as it must necessarily be broken; to say nothing of dropping the honey, and leaving the hive in a state of ruin, that would take the industrious little animals a long time to repair—even if the extra expense of the hive was 50 cents—as it cannot exceed that, unless you have a lock, (which is an improvement) and would probably add 25 cents more. If your correspondent has recommended a better way, of course it will be adopted; on the other hand, if Blake's hive is not considered too expensive, this notice may help him to sell a right. B. P.

From the National Intelligencer.

COMPOSITION TO PRESERVE WOOD.

Mr. Gales—It becomes important to have a simple composition, in the application of which, the durability of bridges constructed of wood will be extended for a long period of time without a roof; whereas, if left exposed to the weather, ten years is their estimated limit of duration. It well deserves the attention of the directors of the city bridge company, for, as the timbers are new, well seasoned, and have suffered no apparent decay, the mixture being now put on will be in time to prevent the operation of the rot.

I send you two receipts, one for the preservation of wood or timbers liable to be injured by the weather; and one for the roof of a house, to defend it not only from the weather, but also from fire, and I doubt not they will be both acceptable to many of your subscribers, among whom I am ONE.

Composition for preserving weather-boarding, and all other work liable to be injured by the weather.

Lime, it is well known, however well burnt, will soon become slacked by exposure in the open air, or even when confined in a situation, if not remarkably dry, so as to crumble of itself into powder. This is what is called air-slacked lime, in contradistinction to that which is slacked in the usual way, by being mixed with water. For the purpose of making the present useful composition to preserve all sorts of wood works exposed to the vicissitudes of weather, take three parts of this air-slacked lime, two of wood ashes, and one of fine sand, pass them through a fine sieve, and add as much linseed oil to the composition as will bring it into a proper consistence of working with a painter's brush. As particular care must be taken to mix it carefully, it should be ground on a stone slab with a proper muller, in the same manner as painters grind their white lead, &c. But where these conveniences are not at hand, the ingredients may be mixed in a large pan and well beat up with a wooden spatula. Two coats of this composition being necessary, the first may be rather thin, but the second should be as thick as it can conveniently be worked.

This most excellent composition for preserving wood when exposed to the injuries of the weather, is highly preferable to the customary mode of laying on tar and ochre. It is indeed every way better calculated for the purpose; being totally impenetrable by water, and so far from being liable to injury by the action of the weather, or heat of the sun, that the latter, though such a powerful enemy to tarred and ochred palings, &c. even hardens and consequently increases the durability of the present proposed composition.

Another receipt for the roof of a house, to defend it from the weather and from fire.

Take one measure of fine sand, two measures of wood ashes well sifted, three of slacked lime

ground up with oil, laid on with a painter's brush, first coat thin, and second thick.

I painted on a board with this mixture, and it adheres so strongly to the board, that it resists an iron tool, and put thick on a shingle resists the operation of fire. I used only a part of the mixture; what remains, continues in an iron pot; water has lain on the mixture for some time without penetrating the substance, which is as hard as a stone.

The Boston Journal of Philosophy and the Arts.

The following notice of this new publication, is extracted from an article in the Massachusetts Agricultural Repository and Journal, No 4, Vol. 7, signed J. L.—*one of the editors.*

"Not in any degree interfering with that of Professor Silliman, the Journal in question is intended to introduce to the American public, those articles in foreign publications devoted to Philosophy and the Arts, which may be thought most useful. We meet this stranger with the most hearty and cordial welcome. Every one who reads much, knows that it is impossible in the present state of our country, that the European scientific journals can all of them, or indeed any of them, be republished here. They cannot be imported without enormous expense, owing to the inexplicable policy of laying heavy duties on all works, without discriminating those which must have a limited circulation, from those which are read by the great mass. This work is intended to give us a selection from the European publications, of those articles which are peculiarly interesting to us and adapted to our condition and progress. The Journal is under the management of Dr. J. W. Webster, Dr. J. Ware, and Mr. D. Treadwell, and we cannot have a better pledge of the sound discretion which will be exercised in the selection, than the well merited reputation of its joint editors. We most earnestly hope it will receive that encouragement which the very attempt deserves, and which is due to the spirited efforts of these scholars, and without which, no scientific exertions can be long successful."

NEW ENGLAND FARMER.

SATURDAY, JULY 12, 1823.

Farmer's and Gardener's Remembrancer.

JULY.

Indian Corn.—Some farmers delay their hilling till haying, in order to husband time, calculating to hill their corn when the weather is such that haying cannot be attended to with profit. This, however, is not altogether a correct mode of proceeding, for the following among other reasons. 1st. Your corn suffers by this delay, and ten to one the weeds get such a start that your labor is much increased, and its good effects greatly diminished. 2dly. By delaying your third hoeing, or hilling too long, your hilling, haying and harvesting press on you all at a time, and you do nothing well, because you do every thing in a hurry. 3dly. When hilling is delayed till haying, you generally hoe your corn in wet weather, because such weather is unfit for haying. But if the soil is considerably wet, ploughing or hoeing it does but little good, and sometimes causes more harm than benefit. The weeds are not destroyed, the land is left in a heavy state, and so tight that the roots of the corn cannot penetrate it, and spread as they otherwise would. You therefore need fine weather for hoeing as well as for haying. A little dampness, however, will be less injurious in the former than in the latter kind of business; and of course it may sometimes be proper to leave your hay-field for your corn-field. But if the ground is considerably wet, or there is a prospect of a "*wet spell*," you had better go with your boys, and the rest of your "*help*" to *cutting bushes.* Dr. Deane said, "other circumstances being equal, the wettest weather is best for destroying shrubs by cutting; because the sap vessels of the stumps will continue open the longer; there will be the greater discharge of sap through them, and the roots will be the more weakened.

"Bushes, which grow in clusters, as alder, and some other sorts, may be expeditiously pulled up by oxen; and this is an effectual way to subdue them. The expense of it, I suppose, will not be more than that of cutting them twice would amount to." The wetter the ground is the more easy it will be to pull up bushes.—But if you have no bushes which require cutting, and the weather is too wet for haying or hoeing, you may find a profitable amusement in

Digging and drawing Stones, and making Stone Wall.—Stones can be dug out of the ground much easier when the ground is wet, than when dry. And now, before we forget it, we will state what the Farmers' Assistant says are the best modes of making stone walls.—"Dig a trench where the wall is to be made, to the depth of about eighteen inches; into this throw all the small and bad shaped stones, until the trench is filled; then on the top of these build the wall, in a mason-like manner, to the height of about five feet, and throw the earth dug out of the trench up against the wall on each side; and in this way it will stand for a length of time beyond the memory of man. If a trench be not dug in this manner, the next best method is to plough deep trenches close on each side of the wall, after it is built, and throw the earth thus ploughed up against the wall."

Turnips.—It is about time to think of raising turnips for feeding stock and other winter uses. They require a light sandy loam, made pretty rich and mellow. The seed may be sowed about the middle of July, but it is not necessary to be very precise as to the time. Dr. Deane observed that he had sown them the first week in August, and had a good crop. If sown so late, they generally escape insects, and though they may not grow quite so large, they will, commonly, be better for the table than those which are sowed earlier. They may be sowed broad cast, or in drills; and if the former way is chosen one pound of seed is the common allowance for an acre of land; but if the fly is to be provided for, the quantity of seed should be a little increased. The Farmers' Manual says, "To secure your turnip crop decidedly against the fly, steep your seed 12 or 24 hours before sowing, in fish or train oil; drain off the oil from the seed, and roll the seed in plaister; this will separate the seed from the glutinous adhesion of the oil, render the casts pure, and enrich your crop." It may be tried, but we doubt its efficacy. The cause does not seem to be adequate to produce the alleged effect; for the minute quantity of oil which might be attached to or imbibed by so small an object as a turnip seed, could hardly, we believe, communicate any odor or flavor to a plant sprung from such seed, sufficient to preserve it from insects. But if fact says otherwise, philosophy may as well be silent. Experiments repeatedly made, and accurately noted, must, after all, be considered as the only sure basis of improvement.*

The seed, when sown broad cast, should be harrowed in with a short tined harrow, and it will be of service to roll the ground with a pretty heavy roller, to prevent the soil from being too loose, break the clods, and level the surface. It is said that top dressing of ashes, or soot strewed over the ground is a good preventive against the fly, and other insects, and it will at least quicken the growth of the plants, and the faster they grow the sooner they will be out of danger from the fly. Infusions of elder, wormwood and tobacco, sprinkled over the ground as soon as the plants appear, have likewise been recommended, but perhaps would be thought too troublesome for field cultivation. If, after all, the fly, drought or grasshoppers destroy the young plants, it will not cost much to harrow and sow the ground a second time, and those evils may thus, perhaps, be avoided.

Although some people will continue to raise turnips according to the broad cast method, yet there is no doubt but these roots may be grown to much greater advantage in drills or rows.—The following from the "Memoirs of the Board of Agriculture of New York," contains directions for raising turnips in the drill method, which have been tested by the experience and recommended by the writings of Mr. Featherstonhaugh, of Duanesburgh, N. Y. a celebrated practical and scientific agriculturist. "The soil being turned up in the fall, and exposed to the winter, is easily broken down in the spring, and by the first of June got into good tillage. Advantage being taken of the first settled weather, deep furrows, three feet apart, are opened, and well cleaned out with the expanding horse hoe.† Fresh dung well sodden down is carted into these furrows; some prefer to spread it at random on the surface, and rake it into the furrows. When the work is sufficiently ahead, these are covered with the plough, and become small ridges or ridgelets three feet apart.‡ By the time the field is dunged, and covered, the turnip drill, preceded by a light roller to flatten the ridgelets, is introduced. A steady hand will sow five acres in a day. When the crop gets into a strong rough leaf, the hoers are introduced to thin the plants, which are left about eight inches apart. These being suffered to fix themselves well in the soil, and their healthy leaves extending over the surface of the ridgelets, a light one horse plough then takes a slice from each side of the ridgelets, and throws it into the furrow. When this operation has killed the weeds, the expanding horse hoe is again introduced, which splits the soil in the furrow,

* Bordley's Husbandry tells us that "It is said to be a successful method of avoiding damage to young turnip plants by flies, to mix every two pounds of seed with a quarter of a pound of sulphur in fine powder, to stand ten or twelve hours; and then sow the seed." It might be well to try this receipt, but we doubt its efficacy, for the reasons before mentioned.

† A common horse plough will answer by being run back in the same furrow.

‡ The Farmers' Assistant says 27 inches.

and returns it to the ridgelets.* If weeds appear again this operation should be repeated, and it is better for the crop if it be repeated two or three times; for stirring the soil is the life of drill husbandry and row culture. It destroys successive crops of weeds, which otherwise would have remained in the soil; disturbs and destroys slugs and insects, and by producing more perfect tillage, permits new fibres to extend themselves in every direction, and opens the soil in the best way to the influence of the atmosphere."

Dr. Deane highly approved of the drill or row culture for turnips, and observed, "For two years past I have sown turnips in the drill way, in the poorest part of my garden, where a crop of pease had grown the same summer, and never had better turnips. They were sufficiently large for the table, though they grew so near together in the rows that the roots crowded each other, and were not sown earlier than about the tenth of August. The earth was hoed into ridges three feet apart, and a single channel seeded on each of the ridges. This is the more observable, as I have often sown turnips in the broadcast way, on the same spot, and at the usual time of sowing fall turnips, and never before raised any that were fit to eat. I have also for several years raised turnips in the field in the drill-way. The ridges were raised in May with the cultivator, about three feet apart. They were kept clear from weeds till about the last of July, by the cultivator and the hand hoe, and then sown in single drills. Nothing more was necessary afterwards, except thinning and once hoeing. The crops were so much better than I have obtained from broad cast sowing, that I am induced to persist in and recommend the method."

Destroy Thistles.—A writer in our paper of last week, page 390, with the signature "Middlesex," is solicitous for information relative to the most successful mode of exterminating the Canada Thistle. The following we have known put in practice with perfect success. Let the thistles alone till they are in full bloom, and then cut them with a scythe. If they are cut when young, they produce fresh shoots, but if mown just before the seed is formed, the stem contains a hollow by which the dews and rain water descend into the heart of the plant and it soon dies. If, however, you cannot find leisure to mow them till the seed is formed, you may even then cut them down, and as soon as they have dried a little in the sun, rake them into heaps and burn them. It is possible that a few may spring up the next season, but two or three cuttings will entirely destroy them. It is said to be best to cut them in wet weather, as the rain will then sooner fill the stalk and cause the plant to rot immediately.

*A common horse plough would answer this purpose, but with less convenience and expedition.

NEW AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENTS.

The New York Statesman of the 7th inst. contains the following account of two agricultural machines, the one for mowing and the other for raking hay.

"The instrument for cutting the grass consists of a circular plate about five feet and a half in diameter, the whole circumference of which is sharpened like a common scythe. This is suspended under a car resembling a common cart, by a perpendicular shaft, the lower end of which rests upon a runner or gauge, and on the upper end of which is machinery receiving its motion from the wheel of the carriage, which is furnished with cogs for that purpose. The wheels are so multiplied, that the ordinary walk of the two horses by which the carriage is drawn gives to the scythe a very rapid horizontal motion. The machinery is placed so far towards the right side of the carriage, that the horses walk just at the edge of the grass. On the car is a seat for the driver, and a chest for the whet-stone and other implements needed in the process. A *self-sharpener* is occasionally used in putting the scythe in order.

"The patent horse-rake of Messrs. Pennock & Pierce, if possible, is a more ingenious and curious instrument than the scythe. It is very simple in its construction, and every one on seeing it is surprised that it was not sooner invented. The head of this rake is about ten feet long, and the teeth, which are about three feet in length, are inserted in both sides horizontally. To the head, at suitable distances, the traces of the horse are fastened, and behind is a handle by which the machinery is directed. When the rake is filled with hay, it is made to revolve by a slight effort of the person tending it, and the alternate teeth are filled. So easy and quick is the process of clearing and shifting its sides, that the horse keeps upon a fast walk across the field without stopping. In this way, the hay is rapidly raked into wind-rows, which by turning the rake are rolled into heaps. By means of this improvement, a man and one horse will rake twenty acres in a day. Mr. Peirce assured us that he could collect it as fast as several hands could cart it from an adjasent field to the barn. With some slight modifications it is capable of being applied to the collection of grain into sheaves. It is particularly useful when a shower is seen rising, and the farmer is in haste to secure his hay or grain. The whole expense of this instrument, including the patent and the right to use it forever, is twelve dollars."

These machines have been recommended by the certificates of Dr. Mitchell, and several other gentlemen of science and respectability.

From the Essex Register.

CELEBRATION AT SALEM, FOURTH JULY.

What gave peculiar novelty to the performances in the Meeting-House, on Friday last, was the novel, interesting and candid remarks of the venerable Col. Pickering, preparatory to the reading of the Declaration of Independence. The Col. commenced by stating, that he had acceded to the call of his fellow-citizens to read the Declaration of Independence, in order that he might lay before them some interesting information on the subject, in his possession. He first commented on the propriety of anniversary celebrations, and their early origin with the feast of the passover observed by the Jews, in commemoration of the deliverance of their offspring from that destruction which overwhelmed the children of their oppressors. He then gave a concise statement of the motives which led to that declaration, and the measures that were taken first to avert its necessity, and next to prepare for its hearty adoption and support.—That petitions and remonstrances were exhausted, without producing any suspension of the determination of the arbitrary council of England, to "bind us in all cases whatsoever, without our consent." That these, though unavailing at St. James, had their effect at home. That then the public mind was gradually prepared for this decisive measure, and foreign auxiliaries sought. That no foreign state was willing to aid us, unless with the view to lessen the power of Great Britain, and that therefore every step short of Independence, would have precluded foreign assistance. The Col. then proceeded to give an account of the manner in which this subject was introduced into Congress: He stated that there was no man living able to give so good an account of it as the venerable John Adams; that he had written to him in the last August on the subject, and he now gave the facts obtained from him. The motion which produced the Declaration, was made on the 10th of June, 1776, by Richard Henry Lee, from Virginia, the largest of the Thirteen United Colonies, who was authorised to make it by the votes of his constituents, the Assembly of Virginia. Mr. Adams seconded the motion, Massachusetts being at that time the second state.—The Col. here alluded to the ability and zeal of President Adams in carrying through this measure. He observed of him, that he possessed that 'bold and daring spirit,' without which no revolution could be successfully accomplished. A committee of five was appointed on the subject, consisting of Mr. Jefferson, Mr. Adams, Dr. Franklin, Mr. Sherman, and Mr. Livingston. Mr. Jefferson, though the youngest on the committee, was chairman, he having one vote more than Mr. Adams. That Mr. Jefferson had come into Congress with great reputation as a writer—and although he was a silent member of that body, yet he was most useful on committees, and felicitous in his writings. That Mr. Adams had made use of every exertion to procure votes for Mr. Jefferson, in order to place him at the head of the committee. That the committee met and appointed Mr. Jefferson and Mr. Adams a sub-committee. That Mr. Jefferson urged on Mr. Adams to write the Declaration, and Mr. Adams urged Mr. J. to do it. That Mr. Jefferson at last consented, and the next day submitted the original draft, as it was presented to Congress. That Mr. Adams thought the only objectionable part of it was that in which Geo. III. was styled a *tyrant*—that he considered that as too personal—that he only considered him such officially, and that he was deceived and misled by his Cabinet. He did not, however, state any objection to Mr. J. as it was afterwards to be submitted to the whole committee, and the feelings and temper of the people were fully up to the tone of the declaration. That he thought some of the most beautiful passages were afterwards stricken out by Congress, particularly that in which it was enumerated as one of the evils of our Colonial state, that the Parliament had refused to allow the colonies to prohibit the importation of slaves, and had thus entailed upon them the evils of a slave population. The sub-committee afterwards reported to the committee, who did not suggest a single alteration or amendment. The committee then reported the Declaration to Congress on the 1st of July, 1776; it was discussed and amended on the 2d, 3d, and 4th of July, and adopted on the latter day, about a quarter of the reported De-

claration having been stricken out. Mr. Pickering differed from Mr. Adams in opinion, and thought the Declaration improved by the amendments. In this opinion of Col. Pickering's we most readily concur, as we consider nearly every alteration made by Congress, with the exception of those in relation to slavery, as a real amendment to that instrument. Most of the ideas in the Declaration had been repeatedly maintained in previous papers, especially in a Declaration of Rights in Massachusetts, penned in a lucid interval by James Otis, and pruned and polished by Samuel Adams. That great credit, however, was due to Mr. Jefferson for the ability of the compilation, and we heartily accord the same degree of credit to the candor of Col. Pickering.

FOR THE NEW ENGLAND FARMER.

MR. EDITOR—I have never been a believer that in Salt was to be found a mean of curing Hay to the extent which has been advocated. But I have been convinced, and several years have confirmed me in the practice, that the application of a peck of salt or more to a ton of hay is very beneficial.

1st. It tends to check an undue degree of fermentation when the hay is not quite made enough.

2d. I have found the hay I have salted less apt to break and lose its head and most nutritive parts, particularly clover.

3d. It has come from the mow in the spring much more green and saleable.

4th. Much less dust or dry mould has appeared than has been the case in all other large parcels of hay where no salt has been used.

The writer is now applying it in the manner herein stated; but more particularly to his clover. If it does well in this neighborhood, how much better must it do where salt is necessary to the thrift of cattle, and adds, for want of a saline atmosphere, so much to the value of the manure of the stock. W.

Dorchester, July, 1823.

FOREIGN.

PROGRESS OF THE FRENCH IN SPAIN.

Paris dates to the 21st, and Portuguese to the 30th of May, have been received. The Paris accounts state that the French in Spain are advancing to Madrid with scarcely a show of opposition. On the 15th of May, they tell us, the Head Quarters of the Duke D'Angouleme were at Aranda, which is about 75 miles north from Madrid. Gen. Obert was at Almazan, about 65 miles north west from Madrid. This commander, they say, is perfectly well received every where, and communicates with the Royalist Gen. Bessieres, who has taken 200 men, the same number of muskets, and four cannon from Ballasteros. The latter is retiring on Valencia, and suffers losses by desertions. On the 11th, Marshall Oudinot's vanguard proceeded from Valladolid to the Douro, where as well as at all other places, he was received with lively enthusiasm. Gen. Morillo's army, according to these accounts, was reduced to about 170 soldiers. Marshall Moncy's troops were full of ardor. Mina's corps is little less than annihilated; and the Baron D. Errolles is in pursuit of him. The Baron is of opinion that if Mina is vigorously pursued, his destruction may be accomplished in eight or ten days.

The above is the substance of Paris accounts, by which, after making suitable allowance for "false facts," we learn no more than that on or about the middle of May, the French were proceeding onward, without encountering much opposition. In this there is nothing remarkable, because neither party anticipated much serious fighting till the French had arrived at Madrid, when the Spaniards were to "cry havoc, and let slip the dogs of war!" The Paris dates do not come down to the 20th May, about which time, according to news received by Capt. Tunison, a great battle was fought, and the French were defeated. Neither do we hear any thing more of Gen. Mina's masterly manœuvre in gaining the rear of Moncy's army. Indeed, the only thing certain about these reports is that no reliance is to be placed on them, and we must wait till Time, the Great Teacher, shall condescend to substitute *reality* for a mass of *conjecture*, the only food for curiosity with which, at present, he condescends to gratify us.

From Portugal.—An arrival at Portsmouth from St. Ubes, has brought Portuguese accounts to the 30th of May. These announce a revolt in Portugal against the constitutional system. They say that a certain Brig. Gen. Sampayo, with his regiment, revolted in the neighborhood of Lisbon, wrote a letter to the Brigadier Governor of arms, announcing his intention to bid "farewell to anarchy," and that the infant Don Miguel, one of the sprigs of royalty, had "quitted the paternal roof, and gone to join himself with this handful of deluded men." They state, however, that the "government has taken the most efficient means to stop the progress of the disorganizing faction. The troops continue true to their oaths, and obedient to their general, in whom they have the utmost confidence." Other accounts state that the Portuguese ministers had resigned. Indeed the reports are so contradictory from Portugal, as well as Spain, that they do not present a foundation on which a yankee of any prudence would hazard a *guess*; and no one can say either what is or what is to be in Spain or Portugal. The usual channels of intelligence seem to be filled altogether with such false and contradictory reports, that they are no more to be regarded than the tattle of a superannuated gossip, who dreams with her eyes open, says every thing "which comes uppermost," and believes every thing she says, because she has said it.

DOMESTIC.

The Fourth of July.—This National Festival has been generally celebrated, in various parts of the Union, with the customary demonstrations of joy and festivity. An account of the Processions, Orations, Odes, Toasts, &c. &c. indicative of the sentiments and feelings which inspired the votaries of Independence, would fill all our columns, and still much that is memorable would be left untold. We must therefore refer our readers to other sources for details on this subject, and merely remark that judging from what we have seen and heard, we are led to conclude that the Festival of Freedom was never celebrated in a manner more worthy of the events it was intended to commemorate, or the principles it was designed to inculcate and hold in perpetual remembrance.

Fatal Accident.—The exhibition of fire works at Salem, on the evening of the 4th inst. was attended with a very melancholy event. A chest placed under the stage, containing about 300 rockets, was accidentally set fire to by a rocket, which having been thrown from the stage, glanced towards the chest, and communicated a blaze to the rockets within, which took different directions. Many persons, principally boys, who had placed themselves very near the stage, were injured by the explosion which followed, and some fatally. Three boys have since died of the wounds received by this dreadful accident. Others were wounded, but it is thought that they will recover.

Caution to Parents.—The New York Commercial Advertiser states that an infant of about nine months was left by its parents in the care of its sister about seven years old, who gave it laudanum to quiet it, and its death in a few hours was the consequence.

On Tuesday, June 10th, before the Horticultural Inspection Committee, in New York, were exhibited two fine Cauliflowers, measuring 26 inches; six summer lettuces of a fine new kind, the largest of which weighed 2 lbs. 6 1-2 oz.; four fine compact lettuces of a new kind, and a fine plant in bloom of *White Moss Rose*, supposed to be the first that has flowered in this country.

John M'Lean, late Commissioner of the General Land Office, has been appointed, by the President of the United States, to be Postmaster General, vice R. J. Meigs, resigned.

Geo. Graham is appointed by the President to be Commissioner of the General Land Office, vice John M'Lean resigned.

The New York Commercial Advertiser states that Mr. J. Wilson, of this city, has been robbed of his pocket book, containing nearly 2000 dollars, between Philadelphia and New York.

The Providence Journal states that seven girls, in the factory of Mess. Greene, Tillinghast, & Co. near Wickford, from the 22d to the 29th ult. both days included, on 14 looms, wove 3910 yards of sheeting.

Erratum.—In our paper of June 28, page 379, in the article with the signature "Herdsman," for meal-bags, read meal *boxes*.

PRICES OF COUNTRY PRODUCE, &c.

[Revised and corrected every Friday.]

		FROM D. C.	TO D. C.
ASHES, pot, 1st qual.	ton.	140 00	143 00
pearl do.		150 00	153 00
BEANS, white,	bush	1 00	1 10
BEEF, mess, 200 cwt.	bbl.	9 00	9 50
cargo, No 1,		8 00	8 50
" No 2,		6 75	7 00
BUTTER, inspect. 1st qual.	lb.	11	12
" 2d qual.		9	10
small kegs, family,		13	14
CHEESE, new milk		7	8
FLAX		8	9
FLAX SEED	bush	85	90
FLOUR, Baltimore, superfine,	bbl.	7 75	7 87
Genessee		7 62	7 87
Rye, best		4 50	4 75
GRAIN, Rye	bush	70	73
Corn		58	60
Barley		68	70
Oats		40	42
HOGS' LARD, 1st sort	lb.	9	10
HOPS, No 1,		8	12
LIME,	cask	1 25	1 37
OIL, Linseed, American	gal.	65	00
PLAISTER PARIS	ton.	3 00	3 50
PORK, Navy Mess	bbl.	12 00	12 50
Bone Middlings		14 00	14 50
Cargo, No 1,		12 00	12 50
Cargo, No 2,		11 00	11 50
SEEDS, Herd's Grass	bush	2 00	2 25
Clover	lb.	8	9
WOOL, Merino, full blood, washed		55	60
do do unwashed		46	50
do 3-4 washed		50	55
do 1-2 do		45	47
Native do		37	40
Pulled, Lamb's, 1st sort		55	60
do Spinning, 1st sort		50	55
PROVISION MARKET.			
BEEF, best pieces	lb.	8	10
PORK, fresh		7	8
VEAL,		6	8
LAMB, per quarter		37	50
POULTRY,		10	12
BUTTER, keg & tub		13	14
lump, best		16	18
EGGS,	doz.	14	15
MEAL, Rye,	bush	75	80
Indian,		75	
POTATOES,		45	47
CIDER, liquor,	bbl.	1 50	2 25
HAY, best,	ton.	18 00	22 00

TERMS OF THE FARMER.

☞ Published every Saturday, at THREE DOLLARS per annum, payable at the end of the year—but those who pay within *sixty days* from the time of subscribing will be entitled to a deduction of FIFTY CENTS.

☞ No paper will be discontinued (unless at the discretion of the Publisher) until arrearages are paid.

☞ Complete files from the commencement of the paper in August can be furnished.

☞ Agents who procure seven subscribers, and become responsible for the payment, will be entitled to a copy gratis, and in the same proportion for a larger number.

The following ODE, written by a member of the Washington Society, in Boston, was sung at the late celebration of Independence, by Mr. Benj. Brigham. We think that the birth day of our National Freedom, fruitful as it has been, and we hope ever will be, in similar productions, has rarely exhibited any thing of the kind of equal excellence.

ODE.

AIR—"*To Liberty's enraptur'd sight.*"

When first with ray divinely bright,
Forth beam'd fair freedom's western star,
O'er ocean, wave, and mountain height,
Its heavenly radiance gleam'd afar;
Admiring nations gaz'd with awe,
And monarchs veil'd their dazzled eyes;
Earth, sea and sky enraptur'd saw,
And bade their swelling anthem rise.
Star of the brave, the great and free!
Hail! glorious star of Liberty.

Then rousing from his rocky rest,
Stern Independence grasp'd his spear,
And toss'd on high his haughty crest,
And bade his glittering banner rear.
Earth trembled 'neath his giant tread;
Shook, pale Oppression's gloomy hold;
The red eyed Despot quak'd with dread,
As far his lofty chorus roll'd.
Where'er thou dawnest all are free!
Hail! glorious star of Liberty.

"Columbia's Sons arise!" he cried,
"To glory, fame and honor rise!"
Each cavern'd rock and hill replied,
In echoes to the list'ning skies:
They rose in virtue's armor bright,
Fierce on their tyrant foes they sprung
While cheering on the patriot fight,
On high the heavenly minstrels sung;
The star of Freedom shines o'er thee!
Columbia thine is Liberty!

As rolls the torrent to the main,
Resistless from the mountain side,
Resolv'd to rend th' Oppressor's chain,
They burst upon his banner'd pride:
With firmer step each Warrior trode;
A surer mark each weapon found;
Each breast with holier fervor glow'd;
As proudly rose the thrilling sound.
Bright harbinger of victory!
Hail! radiant Star of Liberty!

Thus, on to glorious fame they rush'd:
With vict'ry's wreath their brows were crown'd;
And War's dread tempest, now, is hush'd,
Now, Peace, mild beaming, smiles around.
Adown the peaceful vale, no more
The cannon's voice of carnage tells;
But far along our length'ning shore,
Th' inspiring note of triumph swells.
All hail! Columbia, great and free,
Blest home of Peace and Liberty.

And while our bosoms bound with joy,
Forget not we the mighty dead;
Let mem'ry breathe a mingled sigh,
For those who for our freedom bled.
Pledge deep to them the sparkling bowl;
Let their high praise in song arise;
Wake the far echoes of the pole,
In strains aspiring reach the skies.
Brave patriot band, we raise to thee,
Th' exulting voice of Liberty!

From the National Intelligencer.

ROTARY PRINTING.

In one of the letters from London concerning Perkins' improvements on the Steam Engine, there is an incidental mention of an invention "for printing calicoes, by means of an engraved cylinder, which passing over the cloth, performs the work that was formerly done by manual labour."

It is so singular as to be worth remark, that, more than twelve months ago, Mr. Peter Force, printer and bookseller, of this city, disclosed to the writer of this the principle of an invention precisely such as that now ascribed to Mr. Perkins. Mr. Force was at that time engaged in having a model made, and perfecting his invention—which work, it appears, he soon after accomplished: for we discover, from the official printed list of patents issued during the year 1822, that *on the 22d day of August last*, Mr. Force obtained a patent for "an improvement in the machines for printing paper, cloths, books, &c." We yesterday saw the specification of this patent, wherein the scope of the invention is thus prefixed to the description of it:

There are six different machines for completing the improved paper hangings, calicoes, letter-press printing, &c.

1st. For laying on the ground work all of one colour.

2d. For do. of different colours.

3d. For laying on all the different colours, at the same time where they are separate.

4th. For laying on all the different colours at the same time where they are interspersed.

5th. For laying on all the different colours at the same process, where they are intermixed.

6th. For printing books, &c. both sides of the paper, &c. at once.

We do not mean to detract an iota from the merits of Mr. Perkins' invention, whatever they may be valued at, much less from his universally-acknowledged skill in Mechanism. It is no more than just, however, that this useful invention of our townsman should be made known, to the end that he lose neither the merit or profit of what is undoubtedtly his original invention.

NEW ENGLAND AND VIRGINIA.

Extracts from the Journal of a Virginia traveller in New England.

In the excursion from which I have just returned, I had an opportunity of looking more closely than I had done before into the domestic and agricultural economy of the New England farmers. And I have been astonished to observe how much less house-keeping and the cultivation of the soil costs here, than they do among us. A family here, which employs one house servant, lives full as much at ease, as one in our part of the country that employs four—with only this special exception, that, in Virginia, the *mistress* has a great deal the most trouble. Consider the difference, as to expense, between employing four unproductive hands and only one!

I have before remarked that the farms here are small. They are generally cultivated by the proprietor and his sons. And if the whole product is less than on the large plantations in Virginia, the surplus is proportionably much greater; and the expense of clothing incomparably less. I have no doubt but that the nett profits of farming in New England are greater than in Virginia. But this will scarcely be believed here. If it is heard that a man owns a thousand acres of land, and fifty negroes, it is imagined that there is no end to his wealth.—But it is not considered that out of fifty slaves, on account of old age, childhood, disease, and other causes, scarcely ten or twelve able bodied laborers can be found, whose services are to be regularly depended on. Now if the planter grows corn enough to feed all his dependents, and tobacco sufficient to fill fifteen or eighteen hogsheads, he is thought to do exceedingly well. This tobacco, at an average price, will produce from one to two thousand dollars. This is all the planter has to pay taxes, blacksmith's and doctor's bills, the expense of clothing, and every thing else in the way of family expenditure, where there are perhaps sixty persons.—The truth is, that many planters in Virginia begin to feel that the present mode of cultivating the soil is so expensive, and the price of produce so low, that a change will soon become necessary and inevitable. *Free* labor costs less and produces more than that of slaves. Hence while Virginians are nominally rich, they are actually poor; and will be so until some one shall be wise enough to devise a plan for changing the state of things among us. When shall it once be!

An Irishman who had never fired a gun in his life, took it into his head to go a shooting. It was not long before he saw a little wood pecker engaged in perforating a small cherry tree. Pat crept slowly as far as he durst without alarming the bird, and after making two or three circumbendibusses around the tree, as the little feathered mechanic performed a similar revolution round its trunk, he tho't he had at last got a chance for a shot; so shutting both eyes fast, he blazed away. The bird. more scared than hurt by the attack, took to his wings, while Pat, sure as he could be that he had bro't down his game, commenced searching for it among the weeds at the root of the tree. As he was thus engaged, a frog started up before him and began hopping around the tree. Pat in an ecstacy of joy at having found as he supposed the object of his search, soon seized poor croaker, and while he eyed his lantern jaws and freckled skin with somewhat of an amazement, exclaimed, "Arrah, now, but sure you were a pretty bird before I shot all the feathers off you."

A gentleman mistaking a very small lady who was picking her way over a dirty channel, for a very young one, snatched her up in his arms, and landed her in safety on the other side, when she indignanly turned up a face, expressive of the anger of fifty winters, and demanded why he dared to take such a liberty?—"Oh! I humbly beg your pardon, said the gentleman, I have only one amend to make"—and he again caught her up and placed her where he had first found her.

A distinguished member of the New-York convention of 1821, after ending an elaborate speech, and supposing his chair to be behind him (which unfortunately was not the fact) while in the act of seating himself, came to the floor rather *abruptly*. Another member, not noticing the mistake, rose immediately to reply to the speech, but was silenced by a member calling out, "order, order, there's another gentleman on *the floor* already!"